

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BERLIN 04658 01 OF 02 171441Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 HA-05 ACDA-12  
TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08  
COME-00 OES-09 /133 W  
-----058179 171450Z /46

R 171413Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7780  
INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMEMBASSY SANA  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USMISSION USBERLIN  
USMISSION USNATO  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BERLIN 04658

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PGOV, GE, XA, XF  
SUBJECT: GDR REJECTS WESTERN MEDIA CHARGES ON EAST  
- GERMAN INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA AND NEAR EAST  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BERLIN 04658 01 OF 02 171441Z

REF: (A) BERLIN 0018, (B) BERLIN 3699

1. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND OF JULY 7 CARRIED A LENGTHY  
REPORT THAT THE GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS REJECTED  
THE "RECENT SLANDERS OF IMPERIALIST MASS MEDIA AGAINST  
THE GDR AND ITS POLICY IN AFRICA AND THE NEAR EAST."

THE BULK OF THE ARTICLE QUOTES FROM AN MFA SPOKESMAN DENYING RECENT (UNCITED) REPORTS IN THE WESTERN MEDIA THAT THE GDR WAS INVOLVED IN RECENT EVENTS IN THE TWO YEMENS. WHILE NOT REVEALING ANY NEW POSITIONS FOR THE GDR, THE REPORT DEMONSTRATES THE TOUCHINESS OF EAST GERMAN AUTHORITIES CONCERNING THE INCREASING WESTERN MEDIA INTEREST AND ATTENTION TO GDR ACTIVITIES, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA.

2. THE REPORT BEGINS BY DENOUNCING THE "MASS MEDIA OF IMPERIALIST STATES" FOR THEIR "SLANDERS AGAINST THE GDR" IN CONNECTION WITH THE "TRAGIC EVENTS IN THE YAR" AND THE "DEFEAT OF THE ATTEMPTED COUP IN THE PDRY" AS A MEANS OF "DISPARAGING THE FRIENDLY RELATIONS OF THE SOCIALIST STATES, INCLUDING THE GDR, AND AS A PRETEXT FOR ENGAGING IN INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE PDRY."

3. THE REPORT DENOUNCES ATTEMPTS TO CREATE THE IMPRESSION OF "COMMUNIST EXPANSION AND INTERFERENCE" AS A WAY OF DRAWING ATTENTION AWAY FROM IMPERIALIST SUPPORT FOR RACIST REGIMES IN SOUTH AFRICA AND INTERVENTION IN THE SHABA, THE SUDAN, AND IN THE HORN OF AFRICA AS WELL AS THE MANY THOUSANDS OF PAID AMERICAN OFFICERS AND AGENTS, FOR EXAMPLE IN SAUDI ARABIA."

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BERLIN 04658 01 OF 02 171441Z

4. THE REPORT JUSTIFIES ACTIVITIES OF THE "SOCIALIST STATES" IN THESE AREAS AS CONTRIBUTING TO NATIONAL LIBERATION AND SELF-DETERMINATION AND AS ASSISTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ECONOMY AND TO STRENGTHENING THE INDEPENDENCE OF SUCH COUNTRIES AS SOUTH YEMEN. IT NOTES THAT GDR "EXPERTS" (EXPERTS AT WHAT IS NOT SAID) ARE IN SOUTH YEMEN AT THE "INVITATION OF THE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT" FOR THESE PURPOSES. THE ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY DEFENDING THE GDR'S CLOSE ASSOCIATION WITH THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND NOTES THAT THE COOPERATIVE APPROACH OF THE GDR IN THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC-TECHNICAL, CULTURAL AND OTHER FIELDS "IS WELL KNOWN IN THE ARAB WORLD."

5. COMMENT: THIS MFA STATEMENT DEMONSTRATES THE SENSITIVITY OF THE GDR TO WESTERN REPORTS OF GDR MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN THE THIRD WORLD. THE LENGTH OF THE REPORT AND ITS SHARPLY WORDED TONE WILL, IN OUR VIEW, TEND TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE AVERAGE EAST GERMAN READER TO THESE WESTERN REPORTS (AVAILABLE THROUGH WESTERN BROADCASTS) RATHER THAN EFFECTIVELY

COUNTERING THEM. IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH EAST GERMAN CONTACTS WE HAVE NOTED A CONCERN ABOUT GDR ACTIVITIES IN THE THIRD WORLD, A CONCERN WHICH GENERALLY ASSUMES THAT THESE ACTIVITIES INCLUDE MILITARY AND SECURITY PERSONNEL AND OFTEN REFLECTS A GENUINE SENSE OF UNEASE AS TO WHERE SUCH ACTIVITIES MAY LEAD.

6. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT, AS REPORTED IN NEUES DEUTSCHLAND, DOES NOT ACTUALLY DENY MILITARY INVOLVEMENT. THE POSITION IT TAKES IS THAT ITS ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST ARE IN RESPONSE TO LEGITIMATE REQUESTS FROM SOVEREIGN GOVERNMENTS IN THE AREA. THE IMPLICATION IS CLEAR THAT THE GDR INTENDS TO CONTINUE ITS PRESENT POLICY COURSE AND TO SUPPORT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 BERLIN 04658 01 OF 02 171441Z

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BERLIN 04658 02 OF 02 171442Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 HA-05 ACDA-12  
TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 EB-08  
COME-00 OES-09 /133 W  
-----058190 171450Z /46

R 171413Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7781  
INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
AMEMBASSY SANA  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
USMISSION USBERLIN  
USMISSION USNATO  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 BERLIN 04658

ITS FRIENDS IN THE THIRD WORLD.

7. THE EMBASSY HAS RAISED AFRICAN-RELATED ISSUES WITH  
GDR OFFICIALS ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENT  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BERLIN 04658 02 OF 02 171442Z

AND THE AMBASSADOR HAS DISCUSSED AFRICA WITH THE  
FOREIGN MINISTER (REF B) AND WITH THE LATE WERNER  
LAMBERZ. WE HAVE CONSISTENTLY URGED THE GDR TO ACT  
IN A CONSTRUCTIVE AND RESTRAINED MANNER IN AFRICA.  
THE AMBASSADOR PLANS TO MAKE THIS POINT AGAIN WHEN  
HE MEETS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER FISCHER (NO TIME HAS  
YET BEEN FIXED), DRAWING ON RECENT STATEMENTS BY THE  
SECRETARY ON U.S. AFRICAN POLICY. THE AMBASSADOR  
HAS ALSO URGED AFRICAN DIPLOMATS ACCREDITED TO THE  
GDR TO MAKE THEIR VIEWS ON AFRICAN ISSUES KNOWN  
TO THE GDR. END COMMENT. BOLEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, DEFAMATION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BERLIN04658  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780292-1078  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** BERLIN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780754/aaaabtk.tel  
**Line Count:** 202  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** c4fc7f72-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 BERLIN 18, 78 BERLIN 3699  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 26 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1991660  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GDR REJECTS WESTERN MEDIA CHARGES ON EAST - GERMAN INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA AND NEAR EAST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**TAGS:** PGOV, GC, XA, XF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/c4fc7f72-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014